www.cruiseweekly.com.au

Ph: 1300 799 220 Fax: 1300 799 221 Email: info@cruiseweekly.com.au Editors: Louise Goldsbury & Amanda Collins

Aurora clears out Russian coast

CRUISE

Aurora Expeditions is offering last-minute discounts on two voyages.

AHEAD OF TOMORROW'S RELEASE OF ITS 2012 Arctic program, the Australian cruise line has reduced fares for selected sailings this year.

W W E E K L Y

Explosion rocks RCI

PASSENGERS ONBOARD ROYAL CARIBBEAN'S Independence of the Seas have suffered minor injuries following an explosion beside the vessel as she was preparing to depart the port of Gibraltar in the UK yesterday.

According to Royal Caribbean all 10 passengers who were physically affected by the blast have subsequently received medical treatment from *Independence's* onboard facilities, whilst the only two guests who were onshore when the blast happened are currently being looked after by RCI's Care Team.

The explosion itself is reported to have occurred in a fuel tank which was positioned on the dock, although it is not yet known what caused it to go up in flames.

The cruise line confirmed that, for safety reasons, immediately following the blast *Independence* withdrew its gangway and moved "a safe distance from the dock".

Independence is currently on a 14-night itinerary that departed Southampton, England on Saturday 28 May.



The 16 Sep 'Ring Of Fire', Aurora's Russian Far East voyage, has been cut by 10 per cent, with consumer prices starting at US\$7,250 per person.

Departing from Petropavlovsk, this 13-day cruise showcases the valleys and snowcapped volcanoes of Kamchatka, with Zodiac excursions to view brown bears, seabirds, sea lions, whales and otters.

Part of Aurora's inaugural Russian Arctic program, 'Voyage to the End of the Earth' has been cut by 15 per cent.

Departing from Murmansk on 26 Jul, the 14-day adventure is priced from US\$8,080pp. Only accessible by sea, Franz Josef Land's

191 islands are home to polar bears, walrus, seals and the beluga whale.

Both voyages will set sail on Aurora's newly acquired ship, the 54-passenger *Akademik Shokalski*y.

Speaking to **CW**, Lisa Bolton, general manager, Aurora Expeditions, said the 'Across The North Passage' itinerary (10 Aug) had attracted the most attention this season.

"We are the first passenger ship to transit that water at that time of year, crossing nine time zones" Bolton said.

"One of our competitors, Quark Expeditions, does it in an ice-breaker but the *Akademik Shokalskiy* is an ice-strengthened research ship."

Bolton announced today that the 2 Sep Greenland voyage is also 10% off.

'Jewels of the Arctic' via Spitsbergen and Iceland, departs Keflavik on 2 Sep and ends in Longyearbyen on 15 Sep.

To view the full Russian Coast program visit www.auroraexpeditions.com.au.

TODAY'S CRUISE WEEKLY

Welcome to today's **CW** Trade edition featuring five pages of all the latest cruise industry news, plus two pages from Star Cruises on page 6 and page 7.

Star Cruises specials

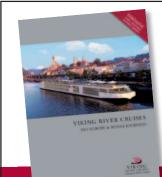
AUSTRALIAN CRUISERS CAN PICK UP A SEVEN-NIGHT cruise and stay package taking-in Phuket Krabi and Penang with Star Cruises onboard *SuperStar Libra* from \$469pp, see **p6** for details.

The cruise line is also reminding agents of its cabin upgrade offer for cruisers travelling on selected *SuperStar Virgo* voyages departing Singapore, see **p7**.

Savor dining as luxurious as our mid-sized ships







2012 Brochure Now Available

The first edition of the Viking River Cruises 2012 brochure provides information on upcoming itineraries and details about the NEW Viking Longships under construction. Plus, we continue to offer your clients great travel value.

To order a brochure visit www.1stfleetbrochureflow.com.au



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Cruising Alaska

It's that time of the year when many Aussies and Kiwis are heading to a perennial favourite cruise region -Alaska.

Aside from cruising throughout Australia, New Zealand and the South Pacific, Alaska has consistently been one of the top cruise destinations from this market – and why not, it is a stunning part of the world!

Breathtaking scenery, gleaming glaciers, abundant wildlife and native culture are just a few of the spectacular attractions that draw visitors to cruise Alaska.

A typical Alaska itinerary of seven days will sail through the Inside Passage and visit spectacular Glacier Bay National Park or Hubbard Glacier.

The most popular ports of call along the way are Juneau, Skagway, Ketchikan and Sitka.

Most cruise lines also offer a variety of extended cruise-tour package options which take passengers deeper into Alaska via train and include land stays at lodges and sightseeing in Denali National Park making their trip to Alaska even more comprehensive.

For climate and sunlight purposes, cruises to Alaska sail strictly during the northern hemisphere summer months of May to mid-September.

June, July and August can be classified as peak season although May and September are the most popular months for Aussies and Kiwi's.

While the majority of ships sail from Vancouver, Seattle is increasingly becoming a popular embarkation point for many lines.





Brett Jardine General Manager ICCA

CCL lures trade with incentives

Carnival Cruise Lines is giving away thousands of iTunes vouchers to travel

agents.

CCL HAS THIS WEEK COMMENCED ITS FIRST ROUND of trade incentives to Australian and NZ retail and wholesale travel agents to encourage training and bookings for Carnival Spirit.

The training incentive started on Monday and closes on 10 Jun 2011.

To take part, entrants must complete the Carnival Spirit training module or attend a webinar next week (7 or 8 Jun 2011).

By correctly answering all questions in a short quiz, agents can win a \$20 iTunes voucher in a total prize pool worth up to \$5000.

The booking incentive requires agents to make a fully deposited booking via POLAR Online on Carnival Spirit between 30 May and 24 Jun 2011.

Entrants are also required to creatively answer a question (in 25 words or less) to be

Bonus commission

AZAMARA CLUB CRUISES IS GIVING AN EXTRA \$200 worth of commission to agents for every new cabin booking on selected European 2011 sailings by 30 Jun.

The bonus commission will be paid out on a selection of 10 European sailings, as well as voyages on Azamara Journey departing 8, 17 and 24 Sep and 4 Oct; and cruises on Azamara Quest departing 1, 8, 15 and 26 Oct and 6, 17 Nov.

In addition to commission deals, Azamara is also offering guests incentives, including a complimentary upgrade from Oceanview rooms to Balcony cabins and US\$500 on board credit per cabin on 10 selected Europe cruises. See www.azamaraclubcruises.com.

eligible to win a \$50 iTunes voucher. The winners of both promotions will be

decided on 1 Jul and will be contacted via post. From Oct 2012, Carnival Spirit will set sail from Sydney to the Pacific Islands or from Sydney and Melbourne to Australia's coastline, or NZ, and will be the first CCL ship to home-port in Australia year-round.



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STAR CLIPPERS CRUISE UNDER FULL SAIL ABOARD THE LARGEST MODERN TALL SHIPS



Windstar jam packed with new sailings in 2012 Everg

Windstar cruises has unveiled its 2012 itinerary collection, which features a whopping nine

new voyages across its entire destination assemblage, which includes: Italy, the Mediterranean, Greek Isles, the Caribbean, Costa Rica, the Baltic and Transatlantic.

Windstar's 2012 Italian offering features three seven-day itineraries, including a new Islands of Italy

roundtrip voyage from Rome, whilst in the Mediterranean the cruise line will offer four itineraries ranging in length between six and eight days and including a new seven-day Classic Mediterranean voyage from Rome to Athens which is priced from \$2,899pp/ts.

In the Greek Isles Windstar will sail two seven-day itineraries including its popular Greek Isles and Turkish Delights adventure as well as a new Greek Isles and the Mysteries of Malta voyage from Athens to Malta taking in Gythion, Argostoli, Butrint National Park, Siracusa, Gozo and Valletta from \$3,599pp/ts.

Moving into the Caribbean Windstar has scheduled three seven-day itineraries, including a new Flavours of the Caribbean cruise departing roundtrip from St Maarten and calling into Le Marin, Pigeon Island, Roseau, Falmouth Harbor, Gustavia; whilst in Costa Rica the cruise line has two seven-day 2012 itineraries, including a repeat of its crowd pleasing Naturally Costa Rica voyage departing roundtrip from Puerto Caldera, as well as a new Passage through Panama cruise from Puerto Caldera to Colon.

2012 also sees Windstar enter the Baltic with three entirely new itineraries including an 11day Treasures of Northern Europe voyage from Lisbon to Oslo, an eight-day Best of the Baltic roundtrip journey from Stockholm and a seven-day Capitals of Scandinavia adventure from Oslo to Stockholm.

Windstar's 2012 Transatlantic series offers guests the chance to embark on longer voyages, with two 14-day itineraries including the Surf Crossing from St Maarten to Lisbon and a Spirit Crossing from Barbados to Lisbon, as well as a new 21-day Star Crossing from Colon to Bermuda to Lisbon, visit www.windstarcruises.com for full season details.

Evergreen in Canada

EVERGREEN TOURS HAS LAUNCHED ITS FULL 90 page Canada and Alaska 2012 brochure, featuring tours and cruising across The Rockies, Alaska, Eastern Canada and the USA.

Earlybird specials featured in conjunction with the program include companion fly free deals for holidays 18 days or longer, as well as early payment discounts of up to \$600 per couple - see www.evergreentours.com.au.

P&O's 14 day sale blitz

AUSTRALIAN CRUISERS HAVE 14 DAYS TO SNAP UP some fantastic P&O Cruises deals to the Pacific Islands, Far North Queensland and New Zealand, as part of the cruise line's two week sale set to launch on 04 Jun.

The deals are priced from \$699pp for a seven-night *Pacific Dawn* voyage departing Brisbane on 11 Feb 2012, stopping in Noumea, Lifou and Vila.

Other deals start from \$799pp for a 10night cruise departing Newcastle to Far North Queensland onboard *Pacific Sun* on 17 Mar 2012; as well as an eight-night *Pacific Pearl* Pacific Escapade departing Sydney on 07 Dec 2011, taking in Emerald Bay, Isle of Pines and Noumea from \$899pp.

For info see www.pocruises.com.au.

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cruise weekly Thursday 2nd June 2011







Travel health warning

TRAVELVAX AUSTRALIA IS URGING TRAVELLERS TO beware of fake medicines whilst overseas, due to a rise in the numbers of phony medications on the market.

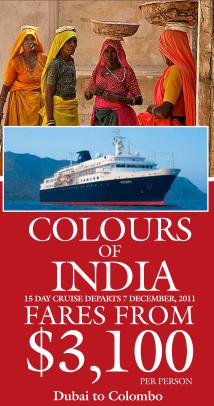
According to Travelvax 3-in-10 medications sold in Africa, Asia and Latin America are counterfeit; whilst 50-60% of medications tested in parts of Asia and Africa have too little - or no - active ingredient.

Travelvax also added that there has been a surge in counterfeit drugs in developed nations.

"To the untrained eye they look like the real thing, but many contain little or no active ingredient... they could even contain toxic ingredients and it's not worth risking your life to save a few dollars," said Dr Ed Bajrovic, medical director of Travelvax Australia.

As such, Travelvax recommends Aussie travellers buy reputable anti-malarial, diarrhoea drugs and other medications recommended for their trip before leaving the country.

MEANWHILE the company is also warning holidaymakers of an outbreak of typhoid in Fiji.



Cruise the Arabian Sea and Indian Ocean, from the United Arab Emirates to the pearl of the Indian Ocean, Sri Lanka. Learn more about Islamic, Hindu and Buddhist cultures and the trade that unites them and explore intricate temples, colonial towns and colourful local markets.



seweekly.com.au EXP

Bentours & Hurtigruten

BENTOURS HAS CONFIRMED THAT IT HAS RENEWED its distribution agreement with Hurtigruten.

"Hurtigruten is one of our most popular products and this continued representation comes as great news for us," said Bentours business head in Australia Jeremy Hearst.

"We have been associated with Hurtigruten for over 30 years and look forward to continuing to offer this unique experience," he added.

Win a trip to the Arctic

AURORA EXPEDITIONS HAS GOTTEN BEHIND THE Sydney Ice Bear project by offering Aussies the chance to win a trip of a lifetime.

The Ice Bear project kicks off tomorrow when British ice sculptor, Mark Coreth carves a giant polar bear out of ice at Customs House Square in Sydney.

Over the next 3-4 days the polar bear will gradually melt, exposing a bronze skeleton underneath.

The project is designed to raise awareness of the environmental issues currently threatening the existence of the bears.

As a major sponsor of the effort, Aurora is offering a trip for two to the Arctic valued at \$20,000 including flights, transfers and a Spitsbergen Odyssey voyage in July 2012.

Entries for the competition are now open with people now able to enter at www.facebook.com/sydneyicebear, as well as at the Sydney Ice Bear stand, Customs House Square from 3-10 June.

Blackwatch in the Baltic

FRED OLSEN CRUISE LINES HAS RELEASED ITS brochure of worldwide cruises for 2012-13, featuring worldwide and regional sailings out of Dover, Southampton, Portsmouth, Newcastle, Greenock (Glasgow) or Rosyth (Edinburgh).

In amongst her 2012 line-up *Boudicca* will feature two long voyages to the Caribbean and the Amazon, as well as a winter cruise to Norway (all from Portsmouth), voyages to the Canaries, the Adriatic, Iberia and Norway (from Greenock), and to the Baltic, Norway, the North Cape and Iceland (from Rosyth).

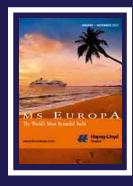
Her sister-ship *Blackwatch* will be based in Dover for most of the year operating voyages to the Mediterranean, around the UK, the Baltic, the Black Sea, Greenland and Iceland, and the Atlantic Islands; as well as a World Cruise, a Christmas Caribbean cruise and an Indian Ocean voyage (from Southampton).

For full program details visit www.fredolsencruises.com.

Brochure of the week

Hapag-Lloyd Cruises has enhanced its shore excursion concept in the 2012 *Ms Europa* brochure. The 2012 program contains eight itineraries travelling to the

Far East, Italy,



Great Britain, Norway, the Baltic Sea, the Adriatic Sea and the Seychelles.

Advanced excursion bookings will allow guests to have a more personalised voyage, see www.hl-cruises.com/.

NCL's meeting website

Norwegian CRUISE LINE HAS LAUNCHED A NEW website and brochure designed to help meeting planners in exploring and booking meetings, incentive groups and corporate events (MICE).

The website showcases the features and flexible options available to MICE groups onboard NCL's fleet of ships, and also offers supporting tools and answers to frequently asked questions.

The new planning brochure discusses the benefits of MICE cruise travel over land packages, and also contains a pull out fleet guide - see www.events.ncl.com.

Kids Night Owls

CARNIVAL CRUISE LINES IS ROLLING OUT LATE NIGHT childrens entertainment options onboard its entire fleet, under the banner Camp Carnival Night Owls.

Designed to give parents a night off, the kids Night Owl parties are conducted in the vessels' play rooms at least once per voyage, under the supervision of Carnival's youth staff.

The late night parties are available for three different age groups including Owl Jams for two to 11 year olds between 10pm and 1am (US\$13); Fun 'Til One for six to eight year olds between 10pm and 1am (US\$20); and Fun at Sea for nine to 11 year olds from 10pm till 3am (US\$33).

The Night Owls program also offers nightly babysitting between 10pm and 3am, which is designed as a "fun filled slumber party at sea" at a cost of US\$6.75 per hour.



CRUISE W E E K L Y Just one click away from keeping up to date with all the breaking news as it comes to hand...

Costa Allegra

Shanghai, which can be broken up and sold

selection of five-, six-, seven-, and eight-day

voyages - see www.costacruises.com.

Golf cruise charter

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a dedicated golf cruise in Vietnam.

conjunction with Gourmet Golf Tours, has

day voyage is hosted by PGA golfer lan

courses, with prices starting at \$9,395

See www.events.com.au for details.

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\$6,021pp/ts and includes return airfares,

airfare taxes, a seven-night Mekong river

cruise, seven-nights in centrally located

deluxe hotels, buffet brekkie daily, and a

domestic flight between Siem Reap and

See www.uniworldcruises.com.au.

Hanoi and arrival and departure transfers.

Cambodia program, is priced from

charted Orion Expedition Cruises' Orion II for

Departing Ho Chi Minh on 09 Nov, the 10-

Once in Shanghai Costa Victoria will offer a

in four individual segments.

Costa spills the beans on new 2011/12 programs

Costa cruises has amped up its worldwide fall 2011 and spring 2012 programs, with a series of

new four-, five- and six-day mini-cruises onboard Costa Atlantica calling into Barcelona, Ibiza/Palma de Mallorca, Ajaccio and Marseille, allowing guests who don't have reams of holiday time up their sleeve the chance to experience the cruise line.

In addition Costa will offer new programs in the Caribbean including alternating eight-day itineraries out of

Guadeloupe onboard Costa Mediterranea from 01 Dec this year to 24 Mar 2012.

Costa has also responded to increasing demand for its South America cruising product by positioning Costa Victoria in Santos between Dec 2011 and Mar 2012, where she will offer 10-day cruises calling into Rio de Janeiro, Buenos Aires, Montevideo, Porto Belo and Ilhabela.

Meanwhile new programs have also been designed in the Canary Islands and Madeira between Nov 2011 and Mar 2012, with Costa Serena offering a selection of 12-day cruises to the region, whilst Costa Marina will feature a 15-day Canary Islands and Madeira itinerary from Savona taking in Spain, Morocco, the Canary Islands and Madeira.

In terms of the cruise line's Asian program Costa Victoria will feature a 73-day repositioning cruise from Santos on 07 Mar 2012 to



Cruise from Sydney to Singapore and along the way discover all that the tropical Queensland has on offer. Darwin is the gateway to the untouched wildernes of UNESCO listed Kakadu National Park while Singapore a melting pot of cultures offers some of the most intriguing cuisine in the world.

> Includes airport/ship transfers, meals, ntertainment, port taxes, fuel supplement, government fees & gratuities.

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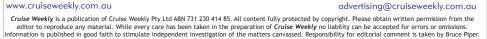
www.voyagesofdiscovery.net.au

cruise weekly Thursday 2nd June 2011

Cruise Weekly Australia/New Zealand PO Box 428, West Ryde NSW 1685 Ph: 1300 799 220 | Fax: 1300 799 221 www.cruiseweekly.com.au

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L





Pirate cove is the next hot destination. Movie-goers in the US have

responded to a recent travel survey, saying they would most like to visit "Whitecap Bay" out of Pirates



of the Caribbean On Stranger Tides, above any other destination showcased in the current slew of blockbusters.

Whitecap Bay, the fictitious body of water surrounding an un-named bay inhabited by slightly menacing mermaids, plays a starring role in the latest Pirate's movie, as the pirate cove in which Captain Jack Sparrow, Black Beard and Barbossa visit whilst sailing On Stranger Tides to discover the fountain of youth.

In the real world Whitecap Bay is actually closer to most peoples reach, being that filming for the Whitecap Bay scenes was undertaken in Halona Cove on Oahu, whilst some sandy shots were also taken in Puerto Rico and other parts of the Hawaiian Islands.

A NEW TARGET MARKET FOR CRUISE LINES?

There seems to be a growing number of travellers who like to take their pets away with them, including one English lady, Jane Hartley, who made headlines recently after she revealed she likes to take her pet parrots on ski holidays to the Alps.

Hartley told media that she does not like to keep her birds in a cage, and as such they routinely join her on the morning and afternoon school runs, shopping trips, bicycle rides and family holidays.

When skiing, Hartley tucks the birds into special pockets in her outfit to keep them toasty and happy.



Polly want a parka?

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7 Night Cruise & Stay from Phuket	Inside Cabin	\$469
Selected departures from May - Dec 2011	Window Cabin	\$567
Phuket, Krabi, Penang (4 x nights own arrangements in Penang), Penang, Phuket	Deluxe Oceanview	\$609
8 Night Cruise & Stay from Phuket Selected departures from June - Sept 2011 Phuket, Krabi, Penang (4 x nights own arrangements in Penang), Penang, Krabi, Phuket		\$622 \$752 \$810

Cruises include all meals[^] and entertainment onboard plus port and fuel charges.



For bookings & further information, contact your preferred Wholesaler

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*CONDITIONS APPLY: All prices are cruise only, AUD, per person twin share and subject to change and availability. Price for Inside Cabin based on Cat DC category, Window Cabin based on CC category & Deluxe Oceanview based on BB category. Single passengers must pay a single supplement. Prices include port charges and fuel surcharge. *Meals included in selected restaurants. 2011 departure dates 7 NIGHT CRUISE ex Phuket – 30 May, 6 & 27 June, 4 July, 5 & 12 Sept, 3, 7,10, 17, 24 & 31 Oct, 14, 21 & 28 Nov, 5 & 12 Dec 2011. 8 NIGHT CRUISE ex Phuket 13 June, 11 & 25 July, 8 & 22 August, 16 Sept 2011. Own arrangements in Penangi sat passengers own choice & expense. 3 NIGHT CRUISE ex Penang May 01, 08, 15, 22 & 29, Jun 05, 12, 19 & 26, Jul03, 10, 17, 24 & 31, Aug 07, 14, 21 & 28, Sept 04, 11, 18 & 25, Oct 02, 09, 16, 23 & 30, Nov 66, 13, 20 & 27, Dec 04, 11, 18 & 25. Holiday surcharge imposed on peak sallings. Strict cancellation fees apply. Please note that a surcharge may be imposed on credit card transactions. A service fee will be charged. Every effort is made to ensure advertisement accuracy, however Star Cruises cannot be held responsible forprinting or typographical errors or errors arising from unforeseen circumstances. Pricing correct as at 14 April 2011. Pricing valid until 31 July 2011. & can be without notice. SCS 25655

SuperStar VIRGO'S Ultimate Upgrade Offer

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\$717 - Free upgrade to Window Cabin

3 NIGHI CRUISES Ultimate Upgrade offer	Selected departures from		Selected departures from 22 May – 25 Sept 2011	Book Window Cabin 25% off Balcony Cabins	\$844 – Free upgrade to Balcony Cabin \$844 – Free upgrade to Balcony Cabin \$1114 – Receive \$GD\$300 F&B Credit
5 NIGHT CRUISES Ultimate Upgrade offer	Malacca Kuala Lumpur		Singapore, Phuket, Langkawi, Pulau Redang Selected departures from 22 May – 25 Sept 2011	Book Inside Cabin Book Window Cabin 25% off Balcony Cabins	\$1141 – Free upgrade to Window Cabin \$1366 – Free upgrade to Balcony Cabin \$1809 – Receive SGD\$400 F&B Credit
7 NIGHT CRUISES Ultimate Upgrade offer	Singapore, Penang, Phuket, Malacca, Kuala Lumpur (Port Klang), Pulau Redang Selected departures from 29 May 2011 – 25 March 2012		Singapore, Phuket, Langkawi, Pulau Redang & Kuala Lumpur (Port Klang) Selected departures from 22 May – 25 Sept 2011	Book Inside Cabin Book Window Cabin 25% off Balcony Cabins	\$1586 – Free upgrade to Window Cabin \$1867 – Free upgrade to Balcony Cabin \$2527 – Receive \$GD\$500 F&B Credit
Ultimate Upgrade offer		Singapore, Ho Chi Minh City, Pulau Redang Departing 5 & 12 June, 3 July, 11 Sept 2011		Book Inside Cabin Book Window Cabin 25% off Balcony Cabins	\$1249 – Free upgrade to Window Cabin \$1474 – Free upgrade to Balcony Cabin Plus Bonus F&B credit SGD\$400 \$1916 – Receive SGD\$400 F&B Credit
7 NIGHT SPECIAL CRUISES Ultimate Upgrade offer		Singapore, Ho Chi Minh City, Pulau Redang, Kuala Lumpur (Port Klang) Selected departures from 5 & 12 June, 3 July, 11 Sept 2011		Book Inside Cabin Book Window Cabin 25% off Balcony Cabins	\$1724 – Free upgrade to Window Cabin \$2035 – Free upgrade to Balcony Cabin Plus Bonus F&B credit \$GD\$500 \$2755 – Receive \$GD\$500 F&B Credit

Singapore, Phyket, Lanakawi Book Inside Cabin

Ster Virge

2 NICHT COLLICEC Singapore, Penana, Phylet

Cruises include all meals[^] and entertainment onboard plus port and fuel charges.

For bookings & further information contact your preferred Wholesaler

*CONDITIONS APPLY: All prices are cruise only, AUD, per person twins share and subject to change and availability. Prices based on following cabin categories; inside Cabin DC, Window Cabin CB, Balcony Cabin BC. Single possengers must pay a single supplement. Every effort is mode to ensure doversiment accuracy, however Star Cruises cannot be held responsible for printing or hypographical errors or errors arising from unforeseen circumstances. Pricing correct as at 14 April 2011. Pricing & bonus credit valid until 30 June 2011 & can be withdrawn at any time without notice. Price includes port charges and fuel surcharge. Holiday surcharge imposed on Peak Sailings Dates: 24 April 2011; 23 Dec 2011; 01 Jan 2012. Vietnam Visa surcharge applicable to Ho Chi Minh sailings of \$30 per person. "Meals included in selected restaurants. Strict cancellation fees apply. Please note that a surcharge may be imposed on credit card transactions. A service fee will be charged. SCS 25407

